

Message Text

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51

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00 L-03

PA-04 PRS-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /130 W

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P 291727Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8715

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NESCO

E.O.11652:

TAGS: OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO DRAFT DECLARATION OF MASS MEDIA
PRINCIPLES

REF: FORSTER-MAXIM TELCON

1. JULIAN BEHRSTOCK ADVISED DELOFF THAT, IN RESPONSE TO
RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED BY REPRESENTATIVE OF "L" DURING
APRIL 3 MEETING WITH IO/UNESCO AT DEPT., ARTICLE I, PARA.
1 OF DRAFT "DECLARATION OF FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES GOVER-
NING USE OF MASS MEDIA ETC." HAS BEEN REVISED AS FOLLOWS:

"THE MASS MEDIA IN DISSEMINATING INFORMATION AND
OPINION HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO DO SO IN A MANNER WHICH
IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE MUTUAL RESPECT OF THE RIGHTS
AND DIGNITY OF STATES AND PEOPLES, AND IN ACCORD
WITH THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLA-
RATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS."

PLEASE CHANGE TEXT ACCORDINGLY.

2. BEHRSTOCK ALSO ASKED PERMDEL APPROVAL OF PRESENTING
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DRAFT DECLARATION TO GENERAL CONFERENCE SEPARATE FROM

FINAL REPORT AND WITH INTRODUCTORY BACKGROUND WHICH IMPLIES DRAFT DECLARATION DRAWN UP BY SECRETARIAT, ALTHOUGH "IN THE LIGHT OF SUGGESTIONS MADE BY THE MEETING OF EXPERTS" WHICH SALANS ATTENDED.

3. COVERSHEET CAREFULLY NOTES EXPERTS "PARTICIPATED IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITY AND NOT AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS." MOREOVER NO MENTION MADE OF EXPERTS CONSENSUS.

4. MEETING REPORT STILL AVAILABLE AND CONTAINS SPECIFIC SALANS STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD THAT IN HIS VIEW DECLARATION "WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE" TO THE USG.

5. BEHRSTOCK FEELS, AND PERMDEL CONCURS, THAT FORMAT PROPOSED ABOVE HAS ADVANTAGE OF TAKING FOCUS AWAY FROM EXPERTS MEETING AND, WITH IT, FACT THAT SALANS USUALLY ALONE IN STATING OBJECTIONS TO DRAFT DECLARATION. MENTION IN NEW BACKGROUND COVER STATEMENT OF SALANS RESERVATION ON BEHALF USG WOULD BE REDUNDANT AND POSSIBLY EMBARRASSING AS A) MEETING TECHNICALLY WAS ONE OF "PRIVATE EXPERTS" AND B) MIGHT RISK CASTING IMAGE OF US AS "CLOSED MINDED" AND RIGIDLY UNCOMPROMISING BEFORE GC EVEN BEGINS.

6) DEPT'S APPROVAL OF NEW FORMAT REQUESTED ON URGENT BASIS BY BEHRSTOCK. PERMDEL CONSIDERS NEW FORMAT ALLOWS US GREATER MANEUVERABILITY IN NEXT GC WHILE FINAL REPORT WITH SALANS RESERVATION OF US POSITION PROVIDES BACK-UP COVER PROTECTION. PLEASE ADVISE BY MAY 2.
RWIN

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